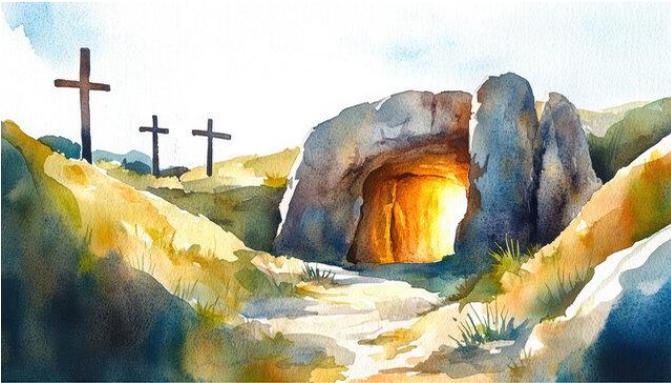


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

Easter Day



*The Lord is risen from the tomb
who for our sakes hung upon the tree, alleluia.*

The Parish Mass of the Resurrection
with Holy Baptism

Sunday 5 April 2026

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church



Safeguarding St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe environment for all who come. If you have any concerns, please speak with one of our welcomers or a churchwarden who may be identified by their lanyard. They will be happy to help you.

Live streaming Please note that this service is being streamed. You may sit where you wish. If, however, you prefer not to be seen online, please sit in a side aisle. The administration of Holy Communion will not be shown.

GDPR Some of St Matthew's services (most Sunday mornings and some special services) are live-streamed or recorded for those who cannot attend church in person. Under GDPR, the church must gain the consent of anyone whose image may be captured, as this constitutes collection of "personal data". This includes clergy, readers/intercessors, musicians and congregation. Whilst every attempt is made not to capture the faces of members of the congregation, this may occasionally happen if people turn around or move around the church during the service. The exception is communion, when the congregation is not filmed. The side aisles and back of the nave are so far as possible film-free areas not covered by the camera. Any-one whose personal data is collected must give their consent. Consent forms are available both in church and on the website. The full policy can be read on our parish website or on the noticeboards in church.

Toilet and baby changing facilities may be found at the base of the church tower. There is also a small servery.

For younger children In the north aisle (nearest to Collingwood Road), a carpeted area equipped with age-specific Christian resources is provided. Please feel free to make use of these facilities.



Collection – ‘Building a Generous Church’



Our response to God’s generosity

We believe in a generous God, who longs for us to share his generosity with others. A generous life is therefore a hallmark of our faith and a testament to it, as the more generous we are, the more we reflect the generous God we believe in. Generosity is, therefore, at the heart of our faith, and our own generosity is a sure sign of our faith in action. Generosity is a spiritual gift, and we need to encourage people to seek this gift as they grow in their faith. The ministry and mission of St Matthew’s is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to it.

* * * * *

We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.



Good morning On this most holy and joyful morning, we gather as a parish family to celebrate the Mass of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Easter Day proclaims the triumph of life over death, light over darkness, and hope over despair. The empty tomb stands as a sign of God's unfailing love and the promise of new life for all who believe.

Today, our celebration is made even more joyful as, within this Eucharist, we welcome into the household of faith Matilda "Tilly" Vittoria Fowles, who is six years old, as she comes to be baptised. In Holy Baptism, Tilly will be united with Christ in his death and raised with him in his resurrection, becoming a new creation and a member of Christ's Church.

As we rejoice in the Resurrection, we also rejoice in Tilly's new life in Christ. Together, let us renew our own faith, support her with our prayers, and celebrate the grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

"Christ is risen; he is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!"

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following prayer, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Reflection / Prayer

On Easter Day we still feel pain,
our own pain and the pain of others.
But a new element has been introduced.
It doesn't remove the pain, but gives it a meaning,
and lights it up with hope.
All is different because Jesus is alive and speaks his words of peace to us.
Therefore, there is a quiet joy among us, and a deep sense of peace.
Jesus has broken the power of death,
and gives us the hope of eternal life.
Lord, guard this hope with your grace,
and bring it to fulfilment in the kingdom of heaven.

Setting

Missa brevis in D [K194]

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

The choir are in their stalls

§ **Stand** at the sound of the bell

Introit

§ *The sanctuary party enters. Incense is blessed.*

Choir This is the day which the Lord hath made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Text Psalm 118.24

Music David Halls b.1963
[2013 Commission, for the 120th anniversary]

The presiding priest intones

All Let us go forth in peace
in the name of Christ. Amen.

Processional hymn

All **LIGHT'S** glittering morn bedecks the sky;
Heaven thunders forth its victory-cry:
Alleluya, alleluya.
The glad earth shouts her triumph high,
And groaning hell makes wild reply:
Alleluya, alleluya, alleluya,
alleluya, alleluya.

While he, the King, the mighty King,
Despoiling death of all its sting,
And trampling down the powers of night,
Brings forth his ransomed saints to light:

**His tomb of late the threefold guard
Of watch and stone and seal had barred;
But now, in pomp and triumph high,
He comes from death to victory:**

**That Eastertide with joy was bright,
The sun shone out with fairer light,
When, to their longing eyes restored,
The glad apostles saw their Lord:**

**Jesu, the King of gentleness,
Do thou thyself our hearts possess,
That we may give thee all our days
The tribute of our grateful praise:**

**O Lord of all, with us abide
In this our joyful Eastertide;
From every weapon death can wield
Thine own redeemed for ever shield:**

**All praise be thine, O risen Lord,
From death to endless life restored;
And praise to God the Father be
And Holy Ghost eternally:**

Music *Lasst uns erfreuen* (Easter Song)
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

Words Latin, 4th century
translated by John Mason Neale 1818-1866

All † In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Greeting

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Easter Acclamation

All Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

§ *The presiding priest introduces the feast, and invites Marianna to bring Matilda to the dais step*

Introduction to Baptism

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead
and sent the Holy Spirit to recall the whole world to himself.
In baptism we die to sin and rise to newness of life in Christ.
Here we find rebirth in the Spirit,
and set our minds on his heavenly gifts.
As children of God, we are continually created anew,
as we walk the path of faith,
and feed on the forgiveness of his healing grace.

§ *Matilda and her mother return to their seats*

The Ordinary of the Mass is sung to a choral setting

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens,
Domine Filii unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to men of goodwill.
We praise you. We bless you.
We worship you. We glorify you.
We give thanks to you for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God the Father,
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you only are holy. You only are the Lord.
You only are the most high, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

The Collect

Let us pray that the risen Christ will raise us up
and renew our lives:

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Christ Jesus,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

All **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
to discover further the meaning of this joyful Eastertide,
let us listen attentively to the Good News of Christ's resurrection.

§ *Sit*

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the assembled crowd in Caesarea: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is

the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Acts 10.34-43

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

§ *The congregation stand*

Hymn

All **THE day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
The passover of gladness,
The passover of God!
From death to life eternal,
From earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over
With hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be purged from evil,
That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
Of resurrection-light;
And, listening to his accents,
May hear so calm and plain
His own 'All hail,' and, hearing,
May raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful,
And earth her song begin,
The round world keep high triumph,
And all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen,
Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord hath risen,
Our joy that hath no end.**

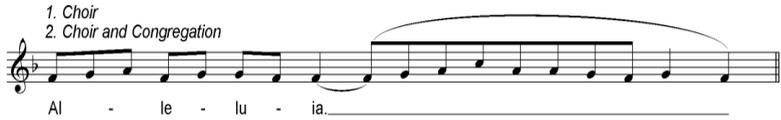
Words Greek, St John of Damascus c.750
translated by John Mason Neale 1816-1866

Music Ellacombe
Mainz Gesangbuch, 1833

The Easter Gospel

Acclamation

1. Choir
2. Choir and Congregation



Al - le - lu - ia.

Choir I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All **Alleluia.**

§ *We turn to face the Book of the Gospels*

Priest The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord, al - le - lu - ia.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around

Presentation of the Candidate

Matilda and her mother gather in the baptistry

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Matilda, do you wish to be baptized?

Answer **I do.**

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.
We thank God for Matilda Vittoria who has come to be baptized today.
Christ loves her and welcomes her into his Church.
So I ask you all:

All Will you support this child as she begins her journey of faith?
We will.

All Will you help her to live and grow within God's family?
We will.

The priest then addresses Matilda's mother:

God knows each of us by name and we are his.
As her mother, you speak for Matilda today.
Will you pray for her, and help her to follow Christ?

She responds

I will.

The Decision

On this Easter Day, the priest invites all the baptized to renew their baptismal vows with Matilda and her mother

We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore, on this Easter Day,
I ask you all to renew your baptismal vows with this family:

All Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

All Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

All Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

All Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

All Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

All Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
I come to Christ.

All May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ
give you the strength to continue in the way.
Amen.

Signing with the Cross

The priest anoints Matilda with the Oil of Baptism making the sign of the cross on her forehead

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

All Do not be ashamed of Christ.
You are his for ever.
**Stand bravely with him against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

All May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

The water, already in the font, was blessed last evening at the Easter Vigil

The Apostles' Creed

Priest Brothers and sisters,
I ask you to profess together with this family the faith of the Church.

All Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

All Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

All Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Baptism

The priest pours holy water on Matilda three times, saying

Matilda Vittoria, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

Anointing with the Oil of Chrism

Matilda is once more anointed, this time making the sign of the cross on the crown of the head

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All **Amen.**

Giving of a Lighted Candle

Matilda is given a baptismal candle lit from the Easter Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

All **Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

Commission

Matilda, we are glad to have welcomed you here for your baptism.
There will always be a place for you here. Your baptism joins you to
Christ and to his whole Church, in every part of the world, in the past
and in the future, on earth and in heaven.

Even before today, God began his work in you, but it will take the
whole of your life to complete that work. There will be moments when
the journey ahead is a delight and there will be times when it is hard,
but you will never be alone. You will always have the support of other
Christians. There will be many milestones on your journey:
confirmation will be one of them.

Remember that in Jesus, heaven has touched our world. Belonging to him will change your life and, through reading the bible, you will learn more deeply the story of God's love. Through worship, prayer and caring for others you will grow more and more like Jesus. Stand up for fairness, truth and kindness.

God's love is for you, and for everyone. Share with other people the good news of his love.

Faithful and loving God,
bless all those who care for Matilda
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,
and protect their home from all evil.
Fill them with the light of your presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

§ *The congregation turn towards the front and kneel for the prayers*

§ *The baptismal group return to their seats, and the priest and server return to the nave sanctuary*

Sprinkling with Holy Water

O God most high, in the sacrifice of your risen Son
you have made spring up fountains of living water;
may this sprinkling revive in us the grace of baptism
that we also may rise to the glory of new and eternal life.

All **Father, cleanse and bless your people.**

§ *The priest sprinkles the people with holy water drawn from the font as a reminder of baptism, and through which we share in the risen life of Christ*

Water of Life



Choir All you who thirst, come to the waters;
and you will never be thirsty again. **Refrain**

As rain from heaven, so is God's word,
it waters the earth and brings forth life. **Refrain**

Dying with Christ, so we shall rise with him,
death shall no longer have power over us. **Refrain**

Turn to the Lord, cast off your wickedness,
you will find peace in his infinite love. **Refrain**

When the priest has returned to his chair ...

All **Almighty God,**
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised in your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

§ *Kneel*

Intercessor That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy
of his glorious and life-giving resurrection:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches
may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility
to be subject to one another in Christian love:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That by his power war and famine may cease
through all the world:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick,
the weak and the dying,
to comfort and strengthen them (*the acutely ill ...*)
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That, according to his promises,
all who have died in the faith of the resurrection
may be raised on the last day (*the recently departed, year's mind ...*)
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people,
so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Priest Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,
so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy;
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you'.
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory

§ *The Gifts are presented to the presiding priest and the altar is prepared*

Hymn

§ *A monetary collection is taken. For alternative ways of giving please refer to the front of this booklet. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.*

All

**AT the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King;
Who hath washed us in the tide
Flowing from his piercèd side.
Praise we him whose love divine
Gives his guests his blood for wine,
Gives his body for the feast,
Love the victim, Love the priest.**

**Where the Paschal blood is poured,
Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.**

**Mighty victim from on high,
Powers of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is broken in the fight,
Thou has brought us life and light.
Now thy banner thou dost wave,
Conquering Satan and the grave.
See the prince of darkness quelled;
Heaven's bright gates are open held.**

**Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,
Only sin can this destroy;
From sin's death do thou set free,
Souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,
Father, unto thee we raise.
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,
Ever with the Spirit be.**

Words From a Latin Breviary hymn
translated by Robert Campbell 1814-1868

Music Salzburg
Melody from J Hinze 1622-1702
harmony by Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, with Easter joy we offer you the sacrifice
by which your Church is reborn and nourished
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

<i>Choir</i>	Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis.	<i>Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might. heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
	Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine. Osanna in excelsis	<i>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</i>

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company Mary, the Virgin Mother of God,
Mary Magdalen, and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All



A- men.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and sanctus bells are rung

§ *Kneel*

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Invitation to Communion

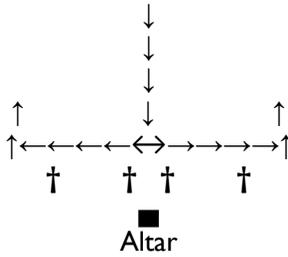
All Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The clergy receive Holy Communion

Giving of Communion

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, alleluia.

- § *Baptized persons who are communicant members of other Churches are warmly invited to receive Holy Communion, as indicated below.*
- § *Alternatively, if you wish to receive a blessing, please bring this booklet with you as a sign to us. Thank you.*



Spiritual Communion – *for those watching at home*

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.

Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Agnus Dei

Choir Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.*

For private reflection before receiving Holy Communion

THOU ART RISEN, O LORD!
Let the quiet altar dazzle with light;
let us haste to thy presence,
wondering, incredulous joy;
and partake of thy risen life.

Motet

Choir This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow.
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber:
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

Words George Ratcliffe Woodward 1848-1934

Music arranged by William Henry Harris 1883-1973

After receiving Holy Communion

THOU ART RISEN, MY LORD AND MY GOD!

Rise up, my heart, give thanks, rejoice!

And do thou, O Lord, deign to enter it
despite the shut doors.

Show me thy hands and thy side,
that it is thou thyself.

Send me about thy business,
servant of the living King, the King of kings,
and hide my life in thine
for ever and ever.

Prayer after Communion

§ *We sit for a time of private prayer and thanksgiving*

Let us pray:

§ *Stand*

God of Life,

who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son

to the death of the cross,

and by his glorious resurrection

have delivered us from the power of our enemy:

grant us so to die daily to sin,

that we may evermore live with him

in the joy of his risen life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

Hymn

All

THINE be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing.
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting:**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

Words French, Edmund Budry 1854-1932
translated by Richard Birch Hoyle 1875-1939

Music Maccabaeus
George Frederick Handel 1685-1759
from a chorus originally in *Joshua*, 1747

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
Amen.

All God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

All God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Sung Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

All

In the name of Christ, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

§ Please turn to face the Madonna and Child sculpture

Regina Caeli

All **Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluya** (9 rings)
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluya
As he promised, hath arisen, alleluya
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluya.

All Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluya
for the Lord is risen indeed, alleluya.

God of life, you have given joy to the world (9 rings)
by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary,
bring us to the happiness of eternal life;
we ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Music The Easter Hymn

Organ Voluntary

Allegro maestoso [Opus 23, i] *Edward Elgar 1857-1934*

- § *Remain standing until the procession has departed*
- § *Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary.*
- § *Refreshments are served in church after Mass, please do join us.*
- § *If you are a newcomer to the parish or area please introduce yourself to one of the clergy or speak to a member of our Welcome Team.*

This evening at 5.30 pm
Solemn Choral Evensong

Our thanks are due to John Folwell
who has generously financed
the production of this week's service booklet.

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

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